

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original): A frame (1) for attachment to an underside of a dock structure to provide buoyancy thereto, characterized by:

a generally planar frame portion (4);

a plurality of receiving members (3), attached to said frame portion (4) and each adapted to receive a hollow container (2) by holding and sealing an open end of said container (2), each of said receiving members (3) comprising a plurality of supports (5) extending in an outward radial direction with respect to each receiving member (4); and means for attaching said frame (1) to the underside of a dock structure, such that said containers (2) depend from said frame (1) and provide a buoyancy effect to said dock structure.

2. (previously presented): A frame (1) according to claim 1 wherein each receiving member (3) comprises a female screw portion adapted to receive a male screw portion of one of said container (2).

3. (currently amended): A frame (1) according to claim 1 wherein each receiving member (3) comprises a substantially cylindrical portion extending normally from said frame portion (4) ~~and a plurality of supports (5) extending in an outward radial direction with respect to said cylindrical portion.~~

4. (canceled).

5. (currently amended): A frame (1) according to claim 1 wherein each receiving member (3) further comprises a plug adapted to receive said containers (2).

6. (previously presented): A frame (1) according to claim 1 wherein said attaching means comprises a plurality of apertures in said frame (1) through which fastening means, used to attach said frame to said underside of said dock structure, may be inserted.

7. (previously presented): A frame (1) according to claim 6 wherein said fastening means comprises at least one screw.

8. (previously presented): A frame (1) according to claim 1 wherein said containers (2) comprise two-liter plastic drink containers.

9. (previously presented): A frame (1) according to claim 1 wherein said dock structure is a structure selected from the group consisting of a cottage dock, floating bridge, island dock, mooring dock for boats, float for an anchor and a boardwalk.

10. (previously presented): A frame (1) according to claim 1 wherein each receiving member (3) comprises an internal gasket to enable an air- and fluid- tight seal between each receiving member (3) and said container (2).

11. (previously presented): A frame (1) according to claim 1 wherein each receiving member (3) is oriented to enable the containers (2) to extend substantially normal to said frame (1).

12. (previously presented): A frame (1) according to claim 1 wherein said receiving members (3) are positioned on said frame (1) in a grid to allow said containers (2) to be arranged in a grid form.

13. (previously presented): A frame (1) according to claim 1 wherein said receiving members (3) are positioned on said frame (1) such that when the containers (2) are held by said receiving members (3), each container (2) contacts at least another container (2).

14. (previously presented): A frame (1) according to claim 1 wherein said frame portion (4) is substantially in the form of right angle quadrilateral.

15. (currently amended): A frame (1) according to claim 1 wherein each receiving member (3) further comprises a locking system which may be used to prevent potential tampering.

16. (currently amended): A frame (1) according to claim 1 ~~comprising a wherein~~ one or more of ~~plurality of~~ said receiving members (3) and has attached thereto a ~~plurality of one or more of said~~ containers (2) ~~attached thereto~~.

17. (previously presented): A frame (1) according to claim 1 wherein each of said receiving members (3) includes eight of said supports (5).

18. (previously presented): A frame (1) according to claim 1 wherein said dock structure is attached to said frame using said attaching means.

19. (previously presented): A dock system characterized by:
a dock structure; and
a plurality of frames (1), each of said frames comprising
a generally planar frame portion (4);
a plurality of receiving members (3), attached to said frame portion (4) and each adapted to receive a hollow container (2) by holding and sealing an open end of said container (2), each of said receiving members (3) comprising a plurality of supports (5) extending in an outward radial direction with respect to each receiving member (4); and means for attaching said frame (1) to the underside of a dock structure, such that said containers (2) depend from said frame (1) and provide a buoyancy effect to said dock structure
wherein said frames (1) are attached to an underside of said dock structure using said attaching means.